

Office of the County Executive

St. Charles County

Steve Ehlmann County Executive

May 18, 2009

Mr. Kevin Keith, PE Chief Engineer Missouri Department of Transportation P.O. Box 270 Jefferson City, MO 65102

Dear Mr. Keith:

Thank you again for the Department's work on behalf of advancing the Page Avenue Extension/Phase II in St. Charles County. The County has wired to MoDOT the \$2 million to complete the design of the final segment of Phase II from Central School Road to Mid Rivers Mall Drive. The County has also prepared and submitted the Innovative Finance Application that outlines the funding partnership that we have previously discussed. I look forward to the Innovative Finance Steering Committee's review of this proposal along with a favorable recommendation. I greatly appreciate the partnership on behalf of completing this important project initiative.

Thank you also for taking time out to visit with Gary Elmestad regarding MoDOT's opportunity to seek to secure TIGER (Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery) funding. I have been advised of the projects which MoDOT has targeted for funding. I would like to propose that you include completion of the Page Avenue Extension/Phase III as the Department's third submittal for a grant.

The project fits the criteria for eligibility to seek to secure funding. The project has national significance and, when completed, will provide relief to I-70, a transcontinental highway. In addition, the regional MPO has prioritized this regionally important project, which will provide for an Interstate to Interstate connector.

Following the discussion this morning, I requested that the St. Charles County Director of Transportation review the budget from the ½ cent transportation sales tax utilized to construct the St. Charles County arterial roadway system. Based on this review, I have prepared the cost share proposal outlined below to complete Missouri Route 364 (Page Avenue Extension/Phase III), a project which is included on the National Highway System.

Mr. Kevin Keith, PE Missouri Department of Transportation May 18, 2009 Page Two

A while back, the MoDOT project manager provided a 2007 estimate for Phase III of \$140 million, substantially less than the future cost of the project included in the regional and state-wide long range plans. Practical design implementation, other cost saving initiatives, and with a good bid in these lean times, I expect that the 2007 estimate can be lowered. I would like to propose the following funding scenario for your consideration:

- \$100 million TIGER Grant
- \$30 million St. Charles County/Municipal cost share
- \$10 million MoDOT/MHTC

You have suggested that we keep the dialogue ongoing. A follow-up will be initiated within a few days to further discuss the above, and the opportunity for a partnership.

The Department's commitment to complete what it has started is greatly appreciated, along with the all the work underway and programmed in this part of the state.

Sincerely,

Steve Ehlmann

St. Charles County Executive

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